

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 04743 170642Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
SES-02 SAA-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SSM-03 IO-13 ACDA-12  
HA-05 /101 W

-----113084 180434Z /14

R 161445Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9253  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 4743

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, LE  
SUBJECT: INTERNAL SITUATION IN LEBANON: CONVERSATION WITH  
ALBERT MOUKHEIBER

1. MOUKHEIBER, THE GREEK ORTHODOX DEPUTY FROM BROUMANNA,  
IS AN OLD FRIEND. HE CALLED TO COMPLAIN ABOUT UNDYNAMIC  
POSTURE OF LEBANESE GOVERNMENT AND TO URGE ME TO DO SOMETHING  
ABOUT IT.DISCUSS SECURITY SITUATION, AND  
HE HAD SEVERAL INTERESTING OBSERVATIONS.

2. FIRST OF THEM WAS THAT HE, FOR ONE, DID NOT WANT SYRIAN  
TROOPS TO LEAVE LEBANON, BECAUSE HE IS AFRAID THAT AS SOON  
AS THEY DID THERE WOULD BE UNPARALLELED SLAUGHTER OF CHRISTIANS  
BY CHRISTIANS. PEOPLE OF ZGHORTA WERE RESOLVED TO AVENGE EHDEN  
MASSACRE AND WOULD ATTACK BIKFAYA, THE HOME OF THE GEMAYELS,  
AS SOON AS SYRIANS WITHDREW FROM THAT NEIGHBORHOOD. SIMILARLY,  
WHEN SYRIANS WITHDREW FROM EAST BEIRUT, IT WOULD BE TURNED OVER  
COMPLETELY TO THE PHALANGE AND THE AHRAR WHO WERE EVEN  
NOW PILLAGING THE VACATED HOUSES AND APARTMENTS OF THE  
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UNFORTUNATE AREA. HE RECALLED HE HAD TOLD ME EIGHTEEN  
MONTHS AGO ONLY 20 PERCENT OF THE PEOPLE SUPPORTED THE  
PHALANGE AND AHRAR. TODAY HE THOUGHT THE PERCENTAGE WAS  
FIVE. EVERYBODY WAS TIRED OF THEIR DEMANDS AND OVERBEARING  
TACTICS.

3. HE SAID THAT FRENGIEH WAS TRYING TO PUT TOGETHER A

BROAD NATIONAL FRONT WHICH WOULD BE BASED ON CONCILIATION WITH OTHERS, BUT ISOLATION OF THE PHALANGE. I REMARKED THAT WE GATHER THE SYRIANS WERE SUPPORTING HIM IN THIS. MOUKHEIBER SAID FRANGIEH WAS VERY SUSPICIOUS OF THE SYRIAN ROLE BECAUSE THE SYRIANS HAD NOT HIT ANY OF THE PHALANGE HEADQUARTERS IN ASHRAFIYAH. HE THOUGHT THEY MIGHT BE IN CAHOOTS.

4. MOUKHEIBER SAID PHALANGE HAD MOVED ARMORED VEHICLES NEXT TO EVERY POSITION IN ASHRAFIYAH TAKEN OVER BY THE INTERNAL SECURITY FORCES WHEN THE SYRIANS MOVED OUT. PHALANGE CLEARLY INTENDED TO RUN ASHRAHIYAH THEMSELVES AND DID NOT INTEND TO LET THE GOVERNMENT FORCES HAVE ANY EFFECTIVE CONTROL.  
PARKER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BEIRUT04743  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780337-0644  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1715122  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INTERNAL SITUATION IN LEBANON: CONVERSATION WITH ALBERT MOUKHEIBER  
**TAGS:** PINT, LE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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